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THE STANDARD.

The School Report.

We have received the Annual Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, which was laid before the legislature. It is a most interesting pamphlet, showing the state of the schools, the attendance during the winter and summer sessions, and affords the means of comparison between the present efficient system, and the old-fashioned one, which it is to be hoped is buried out of the reach of resurrection. Even were the new school law more expensive—which by the way it is not—the great improvement which has been effected in school efficiency, more competent teachers, largely increased attendance, progress of the pupils, and order in the schools—would warrant a larger salary. Before noticing the report more fully, we would refer to the mismanagement of the effective system, that had worked, painstaking, poorly remunerated, and much abused gentleman, Chief Superintendent RAND, whom we only know through his successful labors; he surely had a herculean task, amid much opposition, and other discouragements to inaugurate the new system—but he has done so most effectively.

During the summer term of 1872 there were in the Province 887 schools and 921 teachers and assistants, a decrease of 11 teachers from the number employed the previous year, the number of pupils was larger, being 6,510 more than the previous year. The Winter session of 1873, was still more encouraging. The number of schools was 894, an increase of 230 over the corresponding term in 1872, the number of teachers and assistants 932, being an increase of 280, and the number of pupils attending the schools was 40,405, an increase of 11,649. The summer session of 1873, gives even more encouraging results, there were 969 schools, an increase of 82 over the like term the previous year; the pupils numbered 1,013, an increase of 92 over the corresponding term in 1872, and the pupils numbered 42,243, an increase of 2,406 over the previous year.

But we must not omit interesting particulars, and statistics. The Chief Superintendent shows the necessity of permanency in schools says among other things:—

"It is evident that the manner in which the county and provincial funds are applied under the provisions of the Comm. School Act, will very largely secure almost all that can be desired in the respect of the continuity of schools. For a few terms there will be obstacles in the way of trustees and teachers, but there is no tendency more marked or emphatic of the present system than the desire to have schools in constant operation.—This tendency, ever operative, is chiefly due to the county fund, and is, of the greatest moment in an educational system.

It is very clear that any school system in which teachers are underpaid, must fail to produce good results, for unless fair remuneration is provided for teachers, it is idle to expect the services of well qualified men and women in the public schools.—It is, therefore, satisfactory to observe by the report, that the salaries of teachers show a decided increase over old rates."

"The report abounds with so many instructive and interesting passages, that every one who feels an interest in schools should have a copy. We are pleased to notice that the County of Charlotte maintains a high and prominent position. The county inspector, Mr. Mitchell, in his report, alludes to the progress that has been made—and that the cause of education has received a great impetus in this County under the operation of the new Law. His report goes fully into the schools &c. Of school houses he says:—

"The most noticeable feature of improvement is in the school buildings throughout the County. I had great reason to deplore in my last annual Report the dilapidated school houses which disgraced both town and country. It is no small boast for Charlotte County to say that in the last eight months her people have expended sixty thousand dollars in school buildings and furniture."

"The shire towns, St. Andrews, has set a creditable example. Instead of school rooms in private houses, as on my first visit, they have now a large central building, containing four school rooms, with side rooms, &c., which in external finish is an ornament to the town, and in internal arrangement is all that could be desired. The old frame school building has also been thoroughly repaired, and suitable out buildings erected. Too much praise cannot be given to the energetic gentlemen who compose the Board of Trustees."

"Though beset with many difficulties, they have faced the music with a will, and now have the satisfaction of seeing their work nearly completed, and what is still more gratifying them, meeting with the approval of their intelligent fellow townsmen."

"Adding to the improved supply of teachers, Mr. Mitchell remarks, 'The schools have been vacated from the want of efficient teachers. This has forced me, sorely against my will, to grant quite a

number of local licenses, and still the supply is inadequate. I find by reference to your Report, that teachers in the County are better paid than any other, with the exception of St. John. This should operate as an inducement for good teachers to come to Charlotte, and have their labors duly appreciated. A re-examination of many of the teachers licensed under the previous law is needed. In too many cases persons holding first and second class licenses, and getting corresponding salaries, are doing their work in a third class manner. This evil must be remedied; a license to teach should be some guarantee to the Trustees of the competency of the bearer."

THE ALDINE for April opens with a marvellous collection of beautiful illustrations, some of which are the finest yet seen in The American Art Journal, while all reflect great credit on the enterprising publishers. American scenery, as heretofore, forms a striking feature of this number of the Aldine. J. D. Woodward contributes a tender and beautiful full-page spring scene view, which is printed in tints, and has all the fineness of a steel engraving, the block coming from the hands of C. M. Murrain, the eminent engraver. Five great and remarkable pictures of Lake George and its glorious scenery embellish this number, in which the well-known artist, Thomas Moran, and the engraver, have vied with each other to put upon paper faithful pictures of the most exquisite scenery in the New World. A full page picture shows Lake George, looking from Caldwell and the rear of the famous Fort William Henry Hotel; another fine picture is Fourteen Mile Island, and the rest all large and beautiful, and are view from Fourteen-Mile Island, Long Island, and Cat Mountain. The moonlight, rainbow, and sunlight effects in these pictures are particularly pleasing. A Gull gives a full page picture of Knickerbocker Days, which faithfully represents rural life in New Amsterdam, in the middle of the seventeenth century, when New York was but a village. The most spirited picture which has been seen on paper for a long time, is a full page battle scene, drawn by Julian O. Davidson, representing a conflict at sea between an American and English ship of war, during the Revolution. The details of the ships are admirably drawn. Four other large and beautiful pictures represent scenes in the Old World. The literary contents of the April Aldine are of a high order, varied and interesting. Mrs. Margaret J. Preston opens the number with a fine poem of considerable length, called "The Baron's Daughter." B. P. Avery writes intelligently of "Art in California." W. W. Bailey has a timely essay on "Buds," the editor furnishes a long descriptive article about "Lake George."

There are several very finely executed pictures which we cannot notice at present.

Subscription price, \$5, including chromos "The East" and "The West." James Sutton & Co., publishers, 58 Maiden Lane, New York City.

How a NEWSBOY ROSE IN THE WORLD.—William Henry Smith, just appointed parliamentary secretary to the treasury, by Mr. Disraeli, the prime minister of England, was a newsboy, less than 25 years ago, on the streets from 5 in the morning till 8 at night. Presently he had a booth near the Strand, and then had to employ assistants, finally he hit upon the idea of buying the exclusive right to sell newspapers and other literature at the principal railroad stations in the British Isles, and that made his fortune. He has been in Parliament for five years, and made the reputation of a good speaker and thinker, and Mr. Disraeli put him now in a place that is regarded as the stepping stone to promotion.

There's another fight between the East and West as to whether it is proper to say "yesterday." It is, why not say "yesterday?"

Do FORESTS BRING RAIN?—Some years ago Upper Egypt had only some five or six rainy days in the course of a year; but the Pasha planted millions of trees, and the annual average is now forty-six days of rain, by which the country has been incalculably benefited. The country about Trieste has been made a pretty thorough test, too. Once it was fertile; but the forests were swept away, and barrenness soon followed. Since then, however, millions of olive trees have been planted and carefully reared, and now productiveness has returned.

The profession of journalism is well represented in the British House of Commons. Among its professional members are Mr. Walter, principal proprietor of the Times; Mr. Beresford Hope, principal proprietor of the Saturday Review; Mr. Murray and Mr. Charles Reid of the Daily News; Alderman Carter, of the Leeds Express; Mr. McLaren, of the Leeds Daily News; Mr. P. Taylor, of the Examiner; Dr. Cameron, of the North British Mail; Sir John Gray, of the Freeman's Journal; Mr. Whitworth, of the Circle; Mr. Colman, of the Norfolk

News; Mr. Barr, of the Railway Service Gazette; and Mr. Sullivan, of the Nation.

Sir Garnet Wolseley.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE AND CAREER.

In 1854, when a British army, distributed in squad, was bound to the East at the outbreak of the war with Russia, a moderate-sized man in the undress of an infantry regiment might have been seen, any day of the week, on board the troop-ship Orontes, drilling his company by the side of the purser and the sailors and less zealous military dignitaries in one of the way corners of the steamer's main deck. There was nothing very remarkable about this officer; he was always scrupulously neat, not at all troubled by sea sickness, only afflicted by a sleepless sort of energy that would rather get out of place in a soldier or shipboard. When he was not drilling his men or showing some of the recruits how to "pack up" the knapsack, with its forty-two pounds weight of spare ammunition and so forth, so as to afford the luggage play under the chest strap, he might generally be found in conversation with Petcherine Kersonse on his knees, and the Admiralty chart of the Euxine out for reference. That officer was Captain Garnet Wolseley, the present Commander-in-Chief in A-lante.

Arrived at Gallipoli the division to which Captain Wolseley's regiment was attached had a time of inactivity, little of which fell to the share of the subject of this sketch. His was the privilege to incur an early rebuff from the divisional commander, whose faith in the reputation of a by-gone age induced him to the fulfilment of so starting an innovation as that the young fusilier captain wished to initiate; that, namely, of allowing his men to dispense with the choking leather stock when the glass marked 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Capt. Wolseley, however, was an irrepresible in that respect; checked in one direction this impulse broke out in another, and when the division was moved to Varna his company was, through the judicious changes effected by him in the soldiers' kit, in lighter heavy marching order than any other in the regiment.

Upon the investment of Sebastopol after the defeat of the Russians at the Alma by the combined armies, Captain Wolseley's regiment was incorporated with the Fifth (Sir Richard England's) Infantry Division, which was severely handled at Inkermann. That he was greatly to be commended for his share in the carry through some of the minor reforms in the position of his command. He was the first officer who dispensed with shaving in the ranks, and, when the rigours of the Crimean winter set in, to encourage the soldiers to wear sheepskin coats and caps, whereby the regiment obtained the sobriquet of "Wolseley's woolly boys."

During the desperate fighting to repulse the Russian sortie on the 5th of December, 1855, Major Wolseley, who was held off of the trenches, observed the left wing of the Third Bull's, that was acting as covering force to the advanced working parties, suffering severely from the enemy's artillery fire, and moving up to the offer in command, suggested that he should order his men to lie down.

"Excuse me, I command the wings," was the repellent answer. The next instant the utter fell mortally wounded. "Come, lie down, you officer has set you the example; lie down," said Wolseley dryly and the men complied. Shortly afterwards a hill troop of Russian horse artillery was pushed forward to enfilade the advancing columns of the French reinforcements led by Gen. Aprelles de Palding.

"There is a time for all things," boys," said Wolseley quietly; "a time to take rest, and a time to take guns. We'll have the two; follow me!"

And have them he did. They may be seen to this day on Clifton Down, in England, with "Red Bulls" scratched on the time of capture on the chase of each piece by Great Wolseley's sword point. The interval between the first and second bombardment of Sebastopol afforded Major Wolseley opportunities to distinguish himself, which he was not the man to neglect.

The audacity with which he threw himself with a portion of his regiment into recouls Kuleh, which the Turks had abandoned, and from which he had held the whole Russian attack in check until Sir Colin Campbell's brigade had charged front, earned him mention in Lord Raglan's despatches, and the conclusion of the war found him a lieutenant-colonel, a Knight Commander of the French Legion of Honour, holder of the Victoria Cross, and of the Turkish Order of the Medjidie of the first class.

In 1858 Sir Garnet obtained his majority. At that time he was attached to the 90th regiment, from which he retired on half pay, after serving in the Burmah and Crimean wars; but obtained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, with an Indian appointment, in April, 1859, and that of Colonel in 1865. He was at the siege of Lucknow and defence of the Alton

burgh in the Indian mutiny, when the despatches mentioned him with praise, and his conduct was rewarded with a step of brevet rank. He served in 1860 on the staff of the Quarter-master General, through the war in China, for which, as for his previous services in three other wars, he received medals and other tokens of distinction. In October, 1867, he was appointed Quarter-master General in Canada, and held that office several years. He commanded the Red River expedition in 1870, in which his skillful management was justly applauded; and he has since his return to England shown much ability in command of a division of the troops engaged in the autumn campaigns of the last two or three years. Various articles from his pen upon the subjects of coast and urban fortifications, recruiting, defensive and offensive systems of war, and modern tactics and drill made the name of Garnet Wolseley more of a household word than any of his deeds in the field. The attention of his own countrymen was attracted to him by an order which he brought him a major's commission when his age was far below that at which that rank is generally attained to in the British service, and the action to Mr. Cardwell in nominating him to the command of the Ashantee Expedition was such a departure from Home Guards tradition that it started public opinion into unquenching opposition. The result, however, was fully justified by Mr. Cardwell's action, and General Sir Garnet Wolseley soon to be, it is expected, Lord Wolseley of Comarobe, is the hero whose name is in every man's mouth.

HAPPY USE OF A SCRIPTURAL TEXT.—One of our correspondents with the expeditionary force in Ashantee thus describes an incident which was told in brief in a column published in the Daily News on Saturday last. He writes under date Camp, Detachment, Jan. 29:—

"I do not know that a waster instance of a valuable hint, conveyed under circumstances of difficulty by an ingenious man, has often been recorded. It appears that the last time the envoys were sent back to Comarobe a letter was also sent to Mr. Dawson, who has been a captive there ever since he was sent up to negotiate the divestiture of a German missionary. The letter was, from Captain Butler, the head of the Intelligence Department, and simply contained a small sum of money, for which Mr. Dawson had asked by way of something to live up to. It is understood to be obvious from the letters closely watched this time. As, however, the King had been informed that the money to Mr. Dawson had been sent to the latter, the King was to a certain extent interested in allowing Mr. Dawson to acknowledge the receipt of money. This accordingly Mr. Dawson did in a letter to Captain Butler, which consisted of an acknowledgment in simple terms of receipt, and then concluded some thing in this way:—'The King's letter accompanies this by the same messenger; please see 2 Cor. 2d chap. 11th verse.' Your readers may judge of the temptation it was to Mr. Dawson, engaged in very serious business, living at such a moment a notice of this kind, to throw it aside as a pious ejaculation. Some he is irreligious, I dare say. Some of your readers already remember that the words, in fact, are—'Let Satan get an advantage of us, for we are not ignorant of his devices'—about as neat a hint of intended treachery as perhaps ever passed under circumstances of equal difficulty."

GREAT PRESENCE OF MIND.—It is believed that the lives of perhaps one hundred persons were saved during the recent explosion in the west wharf of the H. W. Canal. It was the presence of mind of one of the blastmen, in carrying a can containing twenty-seven pounds of nitro glycerine when the first explosion occurred, about fifty feet from him. Some of his companions told him to throw the can down the shaft; others shouted "Drop it, hand run!" He did neither; but realizing that if a second explosion occurred, immense damage would be caused by the consequent explosion of the nitro glycerine, he rushed to an old building at some distance, where he put down the can, and then returned toward the scene of disaster. A second explosion occurred just as he reached the door of the machine shop, killing a man within a few feet of him; but the dangerous can was at a safe distance.

The Legislature of British Columbia by a vote of 14 to 5 has sanctioned the departure from the terms of Union, which will enable Mr. Mackenzie to carry out his Pacific Railway policy.

St. John butchers are pushing their remonstrances after the good things in the Upper Provinces. They commenced with importing Ontario beef; now they are bringing along pork as well. The trade is growing. Three St. John butchers—Messrs. Dean, O'Keefe and Kinn—are now in the Upper Provinces.—Gold may be hammered into sheets so thin that 282,000 of them, placed one above the other, will only occupy the height of one inch.

HOG ISLAND

FOR SALE.—The Subscriber offers for sale, Hog Island, near the mouth of Digdegush River, commonly known as "Hog Island," containing about 80 acres more or less, together with all the privileges thereto belonging. The land is of excellent farming quality. As a fishing station, it is not equalled in Passamaquoddy Bay, and is therefore worthy the attention of purchasers. Terms of sale. Apply to ALEX. McMULLIN, St. Patrick March 31, 1874, at Digdegush.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA

Friday, 6th day of March, 1874.

PRESENT: HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL & COUNCIL.

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to whether any or what duty is payable on the article known as "Foot Felt" or "Patent Felt" and it is expedient that such doubts be removed.

His Excellency, on the recommendation of the Treasury Board, and under the provisions of the 4th Section of the Act 31st Victoria, Chapter 4, has been pleased to order and declare that it is hereby ordered and declared that the articles known as "Foot Felt" or "Patent Felt" may be imported into Canada free of Customs duty, under the article mentioned in the Free List (Schedule C) of the Customs Tariff now in force as "Felt for Hats and Boots."

W. A. HIMSWORTH, Clerk Privy Council.

Mail Contract.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, marked "Tender for Mail Service," will be received at Ottawa until 12 o'clock noon, on MONDAY, the 7th April. For the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails between

Saint John and Digby

St. John and Annapolis.

For the term of Four years from the 1st May next, to be performed as follows, viz:— From the 1st April to 15th December, four times per week, each way between St. John, Digby and Annapolis, and from the 15th December until the 1st April twice per week, each way, between St. John and Digby, extending the trips to Annapolis whenever the navigation of the Annapolis River will permit.

Separate Tenders are also invited for the conveyance of Mails between the same points, six times per week, from 1st April until the 15th December, and three times per week from the 15th December until the 1st April.

The conveyance to be made by a seaworthy and commodious passenger steamer, of sufficient power, and capable to perform the round trip in twelve hours, including a reasonable detention at each port of arrival for the exchange of Mails. The vessel employed in this service to be subject to the approval of the Postmaster General in regard to safety, accommodation for passengers and rate of speed.

The Mails are to be conveyed to and from the several Post Offices at the expense of the Contractor. The contract, if satisfactorily executed will continue in force for a term not exceeding four years, the Postmaster General reserving the right to terminate the agreement at any time previous to the expiration of four years, should the public interest in his opinion, require it, upon giving the Contractor six months previous notice of his intention so to do.

It is to be clearly and distinctly understood by persons tendering for the above service that they will not receive any further sum or subsidy from the Government for the performance of the service beyond that stipulated in the contract to be paid by the Post Office Department.

Printed Forms of Tender and guarantee may be obtained at the Post Office at St. John, or at the office of the subscriber.

JOHN McMILLAN, Post Office Inspector, St. John, 23rd Feb, 1874. Mar. 4.

Intercolonial Railway.

THE Commissioners appointed to construct the Intercolonial Railway give Public Notice that they are prepared to receive Tenders for the construction of a "Down Water Terminal" at Flatts Point.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at an Engineer's Office in Ottawa and Rimouski, and after the 29th day of November next. Tenders marked "Tenders for Harbour and Beach Line" will be received at the Commissioners' Office, Ottawa, up to six o'clock, p. m., of the 29th day of December next.

A. WALSH, ED. B. CHANDLER, G. J. BRYDGE, A. W. MCKEAN, Commissioners, Ottawa, Oct. 17, 1873. Oct. 29—41



Walker's California Vinegar
purely Vegetable preparation,
from the native herbs found
in the Sierra Nevada
California, the medicinal prop-
erty is extracted therefrom
of Alcohol. The question
asked, "What is the cause
of the success of VINEGAR
Bitters is, that they remove
acidity, and the patient recov-
ers."
They are the great blood-
life-giving principle, a perfect
Invigorator of the system,
in the history of the world has
no compound possessing
equalities of VINEGAR Bitters
of any disease man is
sick of a gentle Purgative as
relieving Congestion of In-
the Liver and Visceral Organs,
soreness.
All enjoy good health, let
WALKER'S Bitters as a medicine,
use of alcoholic stimulants

WALKER'S Bitters
Druggists and Dealers.

WALKER'S Bitters
Druggists and Dealers.